

lines 16-22). Wherein the subject matter of the pending claims, includes a centralized server coupled with a plurality of distributed client work stations by way of a wide area telecommunications network, and the incorporation of an identification token as discussed in at least paragraph [0010] of the Applicant's disclosure. Arguably, while McCoy teaches an identification system, McCoy does not teach issuing an identification token, or vetting the individual by conducting at least a background check of the individual.

Therefore, the Office Action's assertion that McCoy teaches an identification token is incorrect. Specifically, paragraph [0010], of the Applicant's disclosure, defines an identification token as a "smart card", identification card, i.e., driver's license, credit card, etc., boarding pass, passport, and the like. This specific feature is not taught, nor would it have been suggested, by McCoy. Therefore, McCoy cannot reasonably be considered to teach, or to have suggested, all of the features of an identification management system as recited in the pending claims.

For at least the above reasons, McCoy cannot reasonably be considered to teach, or even to have suggested, the combination of all of the features recited in at least independent claims 1, 11 and 21. Further, claims 2-10 and 12-20 are also neither taught, nor would they have been suggested, by the applied prior art reference for at least the respective dependence of these claims on allowable independent claims 1, 11 and 21, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the subject matter of claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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